

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 were previously pending in this application.

Claims 4-8 stand withdrawn as non-elected and are hereby cancelled without prejudice for presentation in a divisional application.

Claims 1-3 and 9-11 stand rejected.

Claims 1-3 and 9-11 are canceled without prejudice.

New claims 12-17 are added.

No new matter is added.

Claims 12-17 remain in the case.

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 2, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 4,551,392 to Draexler ("Draexler"), in view of U.S. Pat. No. 2,656,292 to Hoover ("Hoover") and U.S. Pat. No. 5,569,716 to Okamoto et al ("Okamoto").

Claims 3 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Draexler, Hoover, and Okamoto, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 2,333,960 issued to Nottebohm ("Nottebohm") and U.S. Pat. No. 2,080,730 issued to McCortney ("McCortney").

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-3 and 9-11 are cancelled, without prejudice.

New claims 12-17 are added to clarify the patentable subject matter of the claimed invention. For example, new claim 12 recites, "the weight of the adhesion-providing agent is at least 30% of the weight of the rubber main material to enhance adhesiveness for an object to be attached thereto." Also, new claim 16 recites, "the weight of the adhesion-providing agent included in the rubber main material is 41% of the weight of the rubber main material." See, for example, page 8 of the instant application.

None of the cited references teach or suggest the above limitations of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, the rejection does not present a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Therefore, claims 12-17 are allowable.

Applicant's Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, allowance of claims 12-17 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

Hosoon Lee
Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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